

Fam. Noctuidæ.

Subfam. QUADRIFINÆ.

Pterocyclophora pratti, sp. n.

Male.—Head, palpi, antennæ, collar, and tegulæ dark brown; thorax and base of the abdomen grey; abdomen above dark brown; the underside and legs pale greyish brown; the anus fawn-colour. Primaries dark purplish brown, broadly bordered with fawn-colour on the outer margin from the apex to the anal angle, the apex broadly suffused with purplish grey; an elongated fawn-coloured spot at the end of the cell; a small white dot close to the base, the inner margin edged with white; the fringe fawn-colour: secondaries bright yellow; a blackish-brown band irrorated with purplish-brown scales extends from the anal angle almost to the apex, the outer margin purplish grey. Under-side: primaries fawn-colour, thickly irrorated with brown and black scales; the basal half of the wing pale yellow, two distinct black bands crossing the wing, but neither extending to the costal or inner margin; a marginal row of black spots extends from the apex to the inner margin: secondaries pale fawn-colour, irrorated with brown scales and crossed by three black lines.

Expanse $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

Hab. Dutch New Guinea, Fak Fak, 1700 feet (*E. A. Pratt, Mus. Druce*).

This species is allied to *Pterocyclophora pictimargo*, Hampson., from Ceylon.

XLV.—On *Mammals* collected by Mr. S. A. Neave, M.A., B.Sc. (Oxon.), in Katanga, Congo Free State. By GUY DOLLMAN, B.A.

THE collection is of interest both on account of the new geographical ranges established for many of the species and, in addition, for the discovery of a new form of *Anomalurus* allied to *A. cinereus*, Thos.

1. *Eidolon helvum*, Kerr.

♀. 99. Lufira River.

2. *Epomophorus zenkeri*, Matsch.

♂ . 1; ♀ . 28. Kambove.

"The fruit-eating bats, which are not uncommon, especially in the well-wooded districts, are called by the natives 'Mulima' or 'Kamlima.'"

3. *Scoteinus schlieffeni*, Peters.

♂ . 32; ♀ . 33. Katanga.

♂ . 47; ♀ . 48. Upper Lufira River.

"Small bats are called 'Kasasusu' by the natives in Katanga, a name sometimes also applied to butterflies."

4. *Petrodromus* sp.

♂ . 49; ♀ . 18. Katanga.

In size and general proportions similar to *P. tetradactylus*, Peters, but differing from that form in having a more hairy tail and in the absence of any buff-coloured tint on the under surface.

Probably these Katanga specimens are more closely allied to the Nyasaland form, *P. venustus*, Thos., than to the more southern *P. tetradactylus*, though at present sufficient material is not at hand to settle this point.

"Called locally 'Kapata.' An animal which generally frequents the thickets &c. on river-banks in the low country. Consequently comparatively scarce in Katanga, which is mostly high plateau."

5. *Nasilio brachyurus*, B. du Bocage.

♂ . 55; ♀ . 56. Katanga.

6. *Nasilio brachyrhynchus*, A. Smith.

♂ . 7; ♀ . 2. Katanga.

This species appears to occur in Katanga side by side with *N. brachyurus*. It is, however, possible that the specimens identified as *N. brachyurus* from this region are only seasonal forms of *N. brachyrhynchus*, as both the *N. brachyurus* were collected in July and the *N. brachyrhynchus* in February. The skulls of the two species are so much alike that it is impossible to decide this question till further specimens are available for examination.

"Generally occurs in hilly and somewhat open country. Native name 'Kalolo.'"

7. *Crocidura* sp.

♂. 70; ♀. 71. Bunkeya River.

♂. 94. Lufupa River.

"Native name in Katanga is 'Mununga,' in reference to their strong smell."

8. *Canis* sp.

♂. 66. Bunkeya River.

♂. 56. Lufira River.

"Jackals are called 'Mumbwe' by the natives in this part of Africa. They are not uncommon, especially on large plains."

9. *Genetta tigrina*, Schreb.

♀. 83. Bunkeya River.

"Called locally 'Kaididi.'"

10. *Nandinia gerrardi*, Thos.

95, 97. Two native skins.

"From the Lubudi River not very far from the Angolan frontier, and not heard of east of this. It is called 'Mbara' by the local natives, the Wandembo, and is said by them to have the greatest aversion to water, never descending to the ground in the rainy season. It seems to be confined to patches of dense forest."

11. *Mungos caffer*, Gm.

♀. 65. Bunkeya River.

12. *Mungos ichneumon*, L.

♂. 63. Bunkeya River.

"The above two species are not distinguished by the natives. They are called 'Chisakanyenga' or 'Mkenge.'"

13. *Mungos paludinosus*, G. Cuv.

♂. 64. Bunkeya, Katanga.

"Lives in long grass and reeds near rivers. It is called 'Chiwuluwulwe' by the natives, in imitation of its curious chattering note."

14. *Crossarchus fasciatus*, Desm.

♀. 44. Near Kambove.

“A very common species, often in large colonies. Native name ‘Chipulwe.’”

15. *Funisciurus annulatus rhodesiae*, Wrought.

♂. 36, 43. Upper Lualaba River.

♀. 98. Lufupa River.

“Usually among large trees. Native name ‘Mshinzi.’”

16. *Funisciurus cepapi*, A. Smith.

♂. 23, 37. Katanga.

“Frequents thin woodland; is not common. Native name ‘Kampandwa.’”

17. *Anomalurus neavei*, sp. n.

♂. 52. Kambove, Katanga.

Size as in *A. cinereus*, Thos., but with much smaller scales on the base of the tail, smaller feet, and the fur more buff-coloured.

General colour of back grey, washed over with buff. Under surface distinctly buffy. Individual hairs of back slate-coloured, with light yellowish rings at tips. Upper surface of forearms and hands light buffy. Upper surface of feet, including hairs covering claws, greyish buff. In *A. cinereus* the claws are covered with long black hairs, sharply marked off from the grey hair on the backs of the feet. Upperside of tail greyish buff for the basal half; posterior portion, comprising a little more than half the total length, dark brown.

Scales on underside of tail small, on an average measuring 7 mm. each in length. In *A. cinereus* the scales are much larger, averaging about 12 mm. long. In the Katanga form the whole scaly area is only 55 mm. long, while in *A. cinereus* it extends much further down the tail, the total length being nearly 80 mm.

The skull exhibits a few well-marked characters that distinguish it from *A. cinereus*:—Nasals shorter and palatal foramina not extending back beyond the maxillo-premaxillary suture, while in the other form these foramina are prolonged back beyond the suture for about 1 mm. The cheek-teeth are set so that the two rows converge towards one another anteriorly, not being so parallel as in *A. cinereus*. The teeth are also smaller, the whole tooth-row measuring 1 mm. less in length.

Dimensions of the type (measured in flesh):—

Head and body 287 mm.; tail 222; hind foot 47.5; ear 37.

Skull: greatest length 52; zygomatic breadth 36; length of upper molar series 12.5.

Hab. Near Kambove, Katanga.

Type. Adult male. B.M. no. 7. 12. 13. 37. Collected 27th June, 1907.

This species is sharply marked off from the Nyasa form, *A. cinereus*, firstly, by its much smaller tail-scales, and, secondly, by the general buff coloration of the fur and absence of black hairs on the claws of the hind feet.

In addition to the type specimen, the Museum possesses two other representatives of this species, an adult female collected by Mr. Neave at Ndola in 1905, and a further specimen collected by Mr. Donald MacDonald in North-eastern Rhodesia, west of Madona.

"This animal is not common, and owing to its entirely nocturnal habits is very seldom seen. All the individuals I have met with have been obtained from hollow trees, where it seems to spend the day."

18. *Graphiurus murinus*, Desm.

♀. 5, 13. Kambove.

19. *Gerbilliscus boehmi*, Noack.

♀. 85. Near Ruwe.

"Seems a scarce and local species, inhabiting sandy woodland country. Called locally 'Masakara.'"

20. *Tatera nyasæ*, Wrought.

♂. 51. Katanga.

♂. 59, 61; ♀. 60, 62, 67. Bunkeya River.

♀. 90. Lufupa River.

21. *Tatera valida*, B. du Bocage.

♂. 89. Lufupa River, west of Lualaba.

22. *Steatomys pratensis*, Peters.

♀. 78. Bunkeya River.

"Common. Native name 'Kansi.'"

23. *Mus chrysophilus*, de Wint.

♂. 35; ♀. 29. Katanga.

♂. 46. Upper Lufira River.

24. *Mus nyikæ*, Thos.

- ♂. 53; ♀. 54. Near Kambove.
 ♂. 30. Katanga.
 ♀. 41. Lualaba River.

25. *Mus walambæ*, Wrought.

- ♂. 16; ♀. 3, 4, 6. Kambove.

26. *Thamnomys surdaster*, Thos. & Wrought.

- ♂. 19, 34; ♀. 27. Katanga.
 ♀. 68. Bunkeya River.
 "Not common. Locally called 'Sampauchi.'"

27. *Leggada grata*, Thos. & Wrought.

- ♀. 8. Kambove.
 ♀. 96. Lubudi River.

28. *Lophuromys aquilus*, True.

- ♂. 86. Lufupa River, west Lualaba district.
 "Trapped on the edge of dense forest. Not met with elsewhere in Katanga. Called by the local natives (Alunda) 'Cherengirengi.'"

29. *Saccostomus campestris*, Peters.

- ♂. 20, 31. Katanga.
 ♂. 57; ♀. 12, 14. Kambove.
 "Common. Local name 'Matuta.'"

30. *Dasymys bentleyæ*, Thos.

- ♂. 74, 75, 76, 77; ♀. 72, 81. Bunkeya River.
 ♀. 87, 88. Lufupa River, west of Lualaba.
 "Frequents long grass and somewhat swampy ground. Native name 'Lifutu' or 'Chifumfutu.'"

31. *Arvicanthis dorsalis*, A. Smith.

- ♂. 93. Lufupa River, west of Lualaba.
 "Seems scarce in Katanga. Called 'Yendakadzua' everywhere."

32. *Pelomys fallax*, Peters.

♀. 15. Kambove.

♂. 80; ♀. 73, 82. Bunkeya River.

“Native name ‘Liwendi.’ Resembles *Dasymys bentleyæ* in its habits.”

33. *Georychus mellandi*, Thos.

♂. 40. Lualaba River.

♂. 42. Upper Lualaba River.

“Native name ‘Mfuko’ or ‘Malevi.’”

34. *Georychus amatus*, Wrought.

♂. 21, 22, 26; ♀. 24, 25. Katanga.

“Also called ‘Mfuko.’”

XLVI.—*Notes on Locomotion and the Use of Slime-threads in the Marine Mollusca.* By NATHANIEL COLGAN, M.R.I.A.

WHILE engaged last year in studying the Nudibranch fauna of County Dublin the writer of these notes was induced to make some observations on the locomotive powers of certain species of marine Mollusca chiefly belonging to the Gastropoda, and as the results arrived at appear to be in some respects sufficiently novel to merit permanent record, they are set out here in some detail. In all 18 species were dealt with, 10 Prosobranchs, 7 Opisthobranchs, and 1 Filibranch, and the aim of the inquiry was not so much to determine the rate of travel of the various species as to ascertain whether any of them were accustomed to make use of suspensory slime-threads as an aid in locomotion.

Every student of the marine Mollusca is familiar with the fact that the Gastropods in general have a strong propensity to float foot upwards on any still-water surface they may be enabled to reach by crawling, and that many of them are accustomed to suspend themselves beneath that surface by means of slime-threads or attenuated strings of the mucus which all of them so freely secrete. But hitherto observation does not appear to have very conclusively established the fact that the power of re-ascending by such threads to the water surface is possessed by many of our native species of marine Mollusca. H. Wallis Kew, indeed, in his well-known paper on Spinning Molluscs in the ‘Zoologist’ for July 1900, states